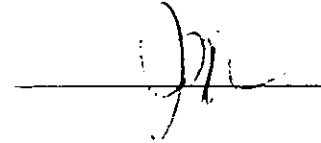


LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Approved: 9/14/84

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. N. Gray', is written over a horizontal line.

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 11, 1984

GEORGE N. GRAY  
CHAIRMAN

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

September 11, 1984

Chairman George N. Gray, presiding:

Members present:

Dr. Jack Cappel  
Mr. Lyle Crain  
Mr. James Farrelly  
Mr. Dale Vinet

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was called to order by Chairman George Gray, on Tuesday, September 11, 1984 at 10:00 AM at the Quail Drive office in Baton Rouge.

A roll call was taken.

A motion was made by Mr. Vinet, seconded by Mr. Farrelly, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of August 7 and August 21, 1984.

Ray Montet gave the monthly enforcement report for the month of July at Monday's meeting.

The Assumption Parish Police Jury requested to be placed on the agenda for the Commission meeting to provide testimony regarding the request for "No Skiing" in the following waterways located in Assumption Parish:

Four Mile Bayou  
Bayou Geneve  
Bayou Crab  
Pierre Part Bay  
Little Bayou Pierre Part

Mr. Murvin Theriot, Police Juror, represented the Police Jury. The Parish Council or Police Jury has the power to create a "no wake" ordinance and this is what was recommended to Mr. Theriot.

Hugh Bateman presented a resolution to ratify the waterfowl season. A motion was made by Dr. Cappel, seconded by Mr. Vinet, and passed unanimously, to approve the ratification.

(The full text of the resolution  
here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, personnel of the Department have surveyed major duck breeding grounds in Canada and attended waterfowl meetings concerning the present status of North American ducks and geese in Denver, Colorado; Collinsville, Illinois and Washington, D. C., and

WHEREAS, the Commission at a special meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 1984 in Lafayette, Louisiana, tentatively set the 1984-85 duck and goose hunting season dates based on recommendations of Department personnel who attended these technical meetings as well as public testimony from numerous Louisiana sportsmen interested in waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the season length framework dates, shooting hours, bag limits, etc. are set by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a formal letter which was received after the Lafayette meeting, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on this date, September 11, 1984 does hereby ratify and adopt the 1984-85 season dates and other waterfowl hunting regulations set by the Commission in Lafayette on August 21, 1984.

Bob Dennie presented a proclamation to the Commission concerning National Coastweek.

(The full text of the proclamation  
here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the purpose of Coastweek is to educate the public in regard to the issues surrounding coastal management, particularly in relation to Lake Pontchartrain and the severe erosion and land loss problems in Coastal Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's wetlands comprise more than twenty-five percent of the Nation's coastal marshes and support many activities which contribute to the health and welfare of the people of our state; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's coastal areas yield nearly one billion pounds of fish and shellfish annually, representing twenty-eight percent of this country's fishing landings; and

WHEREAS, the coastal marshes and offshore waters of Louisiana are a major petroleum and natural gas producing area, supplying more than 300,000,000 barrels of oil annually and supporting over 100,000 jobs in seventeen coastal parishes; and

WHEREAS, the many bayous, bays and lagoons in coastal Louisiana provide water transportation and maritime-related industries which employ more than 50,000 people in our State; and

WHEREAS, more than 1.2 million people live and prosper in Louisiana's coastal zone; and

WHEREAS, it is altogether appropriate that all Louisianians recognize the importance of Louisiana's coast as an outstanding natural resource in our State; now

THEREFORE, we, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission,  
do hereby proclaim the week of October 7 - 14, 1984, to be

COASTWEEK

in the State of Louisiana, and urge all citizens to take  
cognizance of this event and to participate fittingly in  
its observance.

Harry Schafer presented the Survey Section Report for the  
period of July 30-September 6, 1984. During that period, field  
activity consisted of 163 scheduled surveys, 105 were surveyed.  
Thirty-eight (38) of the applications were unable to be surveyed  
due to bad weather and low tide. Twenty (20) applicants failed  
to appear for survey. Office activity consisted of survey fees  
collected were \$1,380, 867 tonnage licenses and 689 dredging  
licenses were issued. The total activity for 1984 consisted of  
530 applications being surveyed, three disputes were settled and  
53 applicants failed to appear for their survey.

Harry Schafer also presented a corrected resolution which  
was accepted at the July 10, 1984 meeting.

(The full text of the resolution  
here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the natural oyster reefs (oyster seed grounds) under  
the managerial supervision of the Louisiana Wildlife and  
Fisheries Commission must open on the first Wednesday  
following Labor Day, September 5, 1984 as provided for  
by Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which also  
authorized the Commission to regulate the size limit  
and area closures after January 1 of each year on state  
controlled grounds, and

WHEREAS, "Oyster Seed Reservations" are small portions of the  
"Oyster Seed Grounds" managed and controlled for seed  
oyster production which are opened on alternate years,  
now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and  
Fisheries Commission does hereby open the "Hackberry  
Bay (Du Chene) Oyster Seed Reservation" and the "Sister  
Lake (Cailou Lake) Oyster Reservation" in accordance  
with Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which opens  
said season one-half hour before sunrise on the first  
Wednesday following Labor Day, September 5, 1984 with  
the exception of "Sister Lake (Cailou Lake) Oyster Seed  
Reservation". Said season on the other reservation shall  
remain open with the same regulations as the regular oyster  
season; however, the Secretary shall be authorized and  
empowered to close the two areas if it is deemed necessary  
by biological investigations and sampling, now

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the "Sister Lake Oyster Seed  
Reservation" will remain open for the period (September  
5 through September 30) for bedding only, close and then

reopen October 15 for both bedding and sacking for the remaining portion of the public oyster season, now  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 1984 shell plant areas in Lake Borgne, Black Bay, Pelican Island and Sister Lake which have been properly marked will remain closed for the 1984-85 season, now  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there will be no sacking within the area described under the reciprocating agreement area (RS 56:561) until October 29, 1984. This is an emergency action. The reason for this emergency action is that the biological surveys to determine the amount, size, and condition of the oysters and oyster seed grounds have to be made continually until the week prior to the Commission meeting in which this matter is the subject on the agenda, now  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation and the Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 1984-85 oyster season.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Mr. Vinet, and passed unanimously, to adopt the corrected resolution.

The date of the November meeting will be Tuesday and Wednesday, the 13th and 14, in Baton Rouge.

The December meeting will be the 3rd and 4th in New Orleans.

Bennie Fontenot presented a resolution to suspend the minimum size length limit on channel catfish. A motion was made by Mr. Farrelly, seconded by Mr. Crain, and passed unanimously, to adopt the resolution.

Bennie Fontenot informed the Commission that a public hearing was held on Thursday, August 30, 1984 at 7:00 PM in Baton Rouge to discuss the minimum size length of channel catfish in certain areas.

Senator Ron Landry spoke in favor of the no size length. There were many people who were in favor of this and many against which resulted in a lengthy detailed discussion.

(The full text of the resolution  
here is made a part of the record)

WHEREAS, the existence of high populations of channel catfish in certain areas of Southeastern Louisiana is well documented, and

WHEREAS, fish population data from these areas show that the vast majority of channel catfish are less than 11" total length, and

WHEREAS, biological data indicate that channel catfish in these areas are stunted, relatively short for their age, and

frequently found to be sexually mature well below 11" total length, and  
WHEREAS, commercial fishermen in these areas have developed markets for "short" catfish and whose catch of channel catfish is largely dependent on channel catfish that are shorter than the 11" minimum total length, and  
WHEREAS, the minimum length of 11" has been removed on channel catfish in these areas since 1981 and no detrimental effects have been observed, and  
WHEREAS, Act 273 of the 1984 Louisiana Legislature authorizes the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to suspend or reduce by resolution the legal size limit on channel catfish in those areas of the state where biological data indicates that such a suspension or reduction in the size limit would not be detrimental to the resource, now  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby suspends, for a 5 year period from January 1, 1985 to January 1, 1990, the minimum size length limit on channel catfish in that portion of Southeastern Louisiana, containing Lac des Allemands, Lake Salvador, Lake Cataouatche, Lake Maurepas, the western portion of Lake Pontchartrain and associated bayous and streams, excluding the Mississippi River and Bayou LaFourche, herein described as: west and south of the west descending bank of the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico to the Huey P. Long bridge; north and west of Highway 90 from Huey P. Long bridge to Causeway Boulevard; west of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway from U. S. Highway 90 to Louisiana Highway 22; south and east of Louisiana Highway 22 to U. S. Highway 61 at Sorrento; north of U. S. 61 from Sorrento to Louisiana Highway 20; east of Louisiana Highway 20 to the east descending bank of Bayou LaFourche at Thibodaux; east of the east descending bank of Bayou LaFourche to Louisiana Highway 1 at Leeville; east and north of Louisiana Highway 1 from Leeville, to the Gulf of Mexico; north of the Gulf of Mexico from Grand Isle to the west descending bank of the Mississippi River.

Mr. Farrelly made a motion, seconded by Mr. Vinet, and passed unanimously, to nominate Dr. Cappel as Vice-Chairman.

A motion was made by Mr. Vinet, seconded by Mr. Crain, to adjourn the meeting.